Allegations Regarding Human Rights Violations in Jammu and Kashmir

222. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late it is being alleged that India is violating the human rights in dealing with the terrorists and militants in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the allegations of the U.N. Human Rights Commission in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have so far taken or propose to take to inform the U.N. Human Rights Commission highlighting the brutalities committed by the terrorists in ousting the Hindus from the valley of Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Pakistan has alleged in the ongoing 50th session of UN Commission on Human Rights that India has violated human rights of the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in her speech at UNCHR alleged that the Indian campaign of gross human rights violations is reminiscent of the darkest days of the Holocaust. She alleged further that 40,000 Kashmiri men and women and children have died. The Government of India have briefed the member-states of the Commission on Human Rights about Pakistan's support to terrorism in Indian state of J&K, which has resulted in violation of human rights of innocent people, including migration of people from the valley. The Indian delegation has also stated this in the meeting of the current session of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva & strongly reputed Pakistan's allegations.

Indian Proposal for Foreign Secretary Talks with Pakistan

223. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contrary to Pakistan's negative stand on resumption of the Indo-Pak dialogue, India has proposed that the next round of foreign Secretary-level talks be held at New Delhi in four months to continue the discussion on Kashmir and other bilateral issues;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures Government have so far taken or propose to take to stop Pakistan from interfering in our internal matters by helping the militants and sending the terrorists on our soil for subversion in the short run including the full details of the package of dialogue offered to Pakistan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) At the Foreign Secretary level talks held between India and Pakistan at Islamabad from 1—3, January, 1994 the two sides reiterated the need to engage in a bilateral dialogue. Government expressed its readiness to draw a schedule for further talks. Pakistan, however, was unwilling to commit itself to any time-frame for further talks and attempted to link the scheduling of future talks with the ground situation in J&K including level of security forces deployed against terrorists in J&K and discussion on the the modalities of a plebiscite, which Government have consistently regarded as unacceptable.

(b) Government have and will continue to urge Pakistan at every available opportunity to stop its support to subversion and terrorism directed against India, which is in violation of the Simla Agreement and the universally accepted norms of inter-State conduct